

Message Text

SECRET

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10

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 /116 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ IAI: HHSTACKHOUSE: KHA

6/27/73: EXT 20840

APPROVED BY NEA - JOSEPH J. SISCO

EUR/ WE - MR. MAGEE

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

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R 272129 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

S E C R E T STATE 126138

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, US, XF

SUBJECT: FRENCH- U. S. MIDDLE EAST TALKS JUNE 25

1. ASST SEC SISCO AND NEA, IO, AF/ N, EUR AND INR OFFICERS
MET FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS JUNE 25 WITH GUY DE COMMINES,
FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR FOR MIDDLE EAST AND
AFRICAN AFFAIRS, HIS DEPUTY FERNAND ROUILLON AND FRENCH
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EMBASSY OFFICERS. OVER HALF OF TIME WAS SPENT ON ARAB-ISRAEL DISPUTE; PENINSULA AND SITUATIONS IN SPECIFIC MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES ALSO DISCUSSED. FULL MEMCONS WILL BE TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY. BRIEF SUMMARY MAIN POINTS MADE BY EACH SIDE FOLLOWS.

2. DE COMMINES TOOK FAMILIAR FRENCH POSITION ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUES, BUT IN LOW KEY: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING POINTS UP ACUTENESS OF DISPUTE AT THIS TIME; THERE IS DANGER EGYPTIANS MIGHT TRY TO DISENGAGE FROM RESOLUTION 242; FRANCE SUPPORTS SOME KIND OF OUTSIDE ROLE IN DISPUTE, BE IT FROM FOUR POWERS OR ELSEWHERE IN UN, BECAUSE IT FEELS THAT OTHERWISE ARABS UNLIKELY TO COMPROMISE.

3. SISCO UNDERLINED: (A) OUR DISSATISFACTION WITH STATE OF NO WAR, NO PEACE (B) OUR CONVICTION EGYPTIANS ARE SERIOUSLY LOOKING FOR DIPLOMATIC TRACK TOWARD POLITICAL SETTLEMENT (C) OUR ATTACHMENT TO RESOLUTION 242 AND OUR

READINESS TO USE VETO IN UN TO ASSURE IT IS NOT DISTORTED OR UNBALANCED (D) OUR LACK OF EVIDENCE EGYPT INTENDS TO DISENGAGE FROM 242, BUT ALSO OUR BELIEF THAT ISRAEL' S AS WELL AS EGYPT' S ATTITUDES CAN BE DEEPLY AFFECTED BY WHAT COMES OUT OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING WHEN IT RESUMES (E) OUR FEELING BEST WAY FOR CURRENT SECURITY COUNCIL PROCESS TO END IS VIA CONSENSUS REAFFIRMING SC RESOLUTION 242 WITHOUT EMBELLISHMENTS (F) OUR OPEN- MINDEDNESS ABOUT WALDHEIM (OR JARRING) GOING TO AREA AFTER SECURITY COUNCIL,(G) OUR CONVICTION THAT NEGOTIATIONS AND STEP BY STEP APPROACH REMAIN ONLY PRACTICAL WAY TO PROCEED (H) OUR READINESS TO PLAY CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE ONCE NEGOTIATING PROCESS IS ENGAGED (I) AND, FINALLY, AMBASSADOR SCALI' S STATEMENT RECENTLY THAT WE BELIEVED 242 NEITHER PRECLUDED NOR ENDORSED 1967 LINES WAS DIRECTED AT BOTH ARABS AND ISRAELIS.

4. DE COMMINES AND SISCO ALSO COMPARED NOTES ON LEBANON, IRAQ AND SYRIA IN PARTICULAR. OUR ASSESSMENTS WERE CLOSE ON THESE COUNTRIES; REGARDING FORMER TWO WE AGREED THAT THERE WERE NUMBER OF HOPEFUL TRENDS AT PRESENT. DE COMMINES HAD LITTLE TO SAY ON PENINSULA AND GULF. SISCO NOTED SOVIET TACTICAL OPPORTUNISM IN THAT AREA AND EMPHASIZED

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OUR INTEREST IN ENHANCING ITS STRENGTH AND STABILITY, AS WELL AS OUR FEELING THAT TO LARGE DEGREE IT CAN FOR NOW AT LEAST BE KEPT SEPARATE FROM ARAB- ISRAEL DISPUTE. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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